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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/025,860	12/26/2001	Sylvain Marcotte	13225-5us JA/PAN/df	7637
20988	7590	05/10/2005	EXAMINER	
OGILVY RENAULT LLP 1981 MCGILL COLLEGE AVENUE SUITE 1600 MONTREAL, QC H3A2Y3 CANADA			BUI, HUNG S	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2841	

DATE MAILED: 05/10/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/025,860

Applicant(s)

MARCOTTE ET AL.

Examiner

Hung S. Bui

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4,6-24 and 26-31 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 12-24 and 26-31 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4, 6-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the circuit board having at least three micro-panel layers must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. The indicated allowability of claims 5-6 is withdrawn in view of the newly discovered reference(s) to Paagman [US 6,96,876]. Rejections based on the newly cited reference(s) follow.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-4 and 6-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hardt et al. [US 6,229,709] in view of Hill et al. [US 5,546,282] and Bellino et al. [US 5,943,219] and Paagman [US 6,196,876].

Regarding claims 1-3 and 6-7, as best understood, Hardt et al. disclose a connector panel (65) for a housing (20) having an opening (figure 1) for accommodating interchangeable electronic cards (16) therein and having shielding from electromagnetic impulses.

Hardt et al. disclose the instant claimed invention except for the specific structure of the connector panel and the interconnection between the connector panels and the printed circuit board consisting of at least three micro-panel layers.

Hill et al. discloses a connector panel (figure 6) printed circuit board (34) with a conductive plane (24); a card connector (44) on the panel adapted for being releasably

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connected to an electronic card (50) in the housing; at least one input/output connector (36, 38, 40, 42) on a first surface of the panel, the input/output connectors being connected to the card connector by a printed circuit of the printed circuit board (column 3, line 63-column 4, line 4) and adapted for being connected to an input/output of a peripheral device.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the connector panel design of Hill et al. for the connector panel of Davis et al. for the purpose of providing prewiring of the input/output connectors.

Bellino et al. disclose a backplane having a plurality of adjacent panels (602, 604, 606) with a resilient gasket shield (612) being mounted between a concave and convex portion of adjacent panels (figure 9).

It would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time invention was made to use the gasket design of Bellino et al. for the adjacent panels of Hardt et al., as modified, for the purpose of providing shielding for the interior for the housing.

Paagman discloses a printed circuit board (1) for connectors having at least three micro panel layers (figure 3).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the circuit board design of Paagman for the circuit board of Hardt et al., as modified, for the purpose of interconnecting the internal and external connections.

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Regarding claim 4, Hardt et al. in view of Hill et al. further disclose the circuit board body having an elongated rectangular shape (figure 6).

Regarding claim 8, Hardt et al. in view of Hill et al. further disclose the printed circuit board body having a first surface and a second surface with the card connector being on the first surface and the input/out connector being on the second surface (figure 6).

Regarding claims 9-10, Hardt et al. disclose an alignment slot/through bore being provided on the connector panel (figure 2).

Regarding claim 11, Hardt et al., as modified, disclose the instant claimed invention except for the specific type of connector used for the connector panel.

The specific type of connectors use with the connector panel of Hardt et al., as modified, would have been an obvious design consideration based on the specific application of the device.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 12-24 and 26-31 are allowed.

Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-4, 6-24 and 26-31 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

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Conclusion

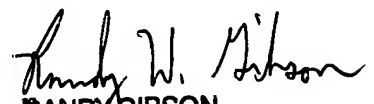
7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hung S. Bui whose telephone number is (571) 272-2102. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:30AM-6:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kamand Cuneo can be reached on (571) 272-1957. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

5/4/05

HB


RANDY GIBSON
PRIMARY EXAMINER